

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application as amended herein is respectfully requested. Claims 1-4 have been amended. Claim 5 has been added. Thus, claims 1-5 are pending.

Specification

The Office Action notes that the references cited in the specification should be listed in an Information Disclosure Statement to be considered. Applicant will list the items listed in an Information Disclosure Statement, although a number of these items listed were filed on the same day as the present application and are therefore not prior art.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rocci. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Firstly, Rocci does not disclose an “in situ” method for determining cable length. To avoid any ambiguity, Applicant has amended claim 1 so that it is understood that “in situ” has its ordinary meaning, in which the cable length is determined while the cable is installed in the emulator. In contrast, Rocci discloses that the methods disclosed therein are directed to determining the length of a cable that is wound on a reel, i.e., prior to installation. See Rocci, Col. 1, lines 37-41. Moreover, contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, Rocci does not teach or suggest “interchanging the inputs or outputs” on the cable. The first portion of Rocci cited by the Office Action states:

In FIGS. 3(a)-3(c), when connected together, there is illustrated a detailed schematic circuit diagram of the apparatus for determining the length of wires of FIG. 1. Specifically, in FIG. 3(a) there is shown the digital I/O control circuit portion 12 which is comprised

basically of a microprocessor 80 and a read-only memory (ROM) 82 which is used to control the microcomprocessor. The microprocessor 80 is preferably of the type similar to the one commercially available from Zilog of Sunnyvale, Calif., as Model No. Z8681. The ROM 82 is preferably of the type commercially available from Motorola Corporation of Schaumburg, Ill., as Model No. 2732. The ROM 82 is used for storing data representative of the resistivity per unit length of various sizes of wires having a uniform cross-sectional area as well as for storing programmed instructions for controlling the microprocessor 80. The microprocessor 80 inputs all the needed data and outputs all needed control signals to accomplish the measurement operation as set forth herein.

Col. 4, line 66 through Col. 5, line 17. This does not say anything about interchanging inputs or outputs on the cable. The other portion of Rocci cited in the Office Actions states:

The input node 142 is also connected to the other end 22b of the wire to be tested.

Col. 6, lines 29-31. This section says nothing about interchanging inputs and outputs. It only states that one end of the cable is connected to the apparatus 10. In fact, these cited portions highlight one of the key differences between Rocci and the subject matter of claim 1, namely that Rocci does not determine the length of the cable while it is installed in an emulator. Instead, Rocci requires that the cable be connected to a separate apparatus that determines the length.

In addition, Rocci cannot possibly teach the programming of an emulator to input test patterns or to collect output data since Rocci does not even mention the use of an emulator. As the specification makes clear at, for example, page 3, lines 5-14, an emulator is used to verify logic designs prior to manufacture. Rocci says nothing about such a structure. Finally, since Rocci does not disclose an emulator, it cannot possibly disclose the reprogramming of the emulation system to cope with the interchanged conductors. In sum, claim 1 is allowable over Rocci.

Claims 2-4 are allowable because they are dependent on claim 1, which is allowable.

CONCLUSION


In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be useful in moving the application forward to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (650) 614-7400. If additional fees are needed, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 15-0665.

Respectfully submitted,

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